MARVEL COMICS
AUG
#378
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
DAREDEVIL
THE MAN WITHOUT FEAR
FLYING BLIND
PART 3
LOBDELL
MORGAN
HANNA
WWW.MARVEL.COM
UNDER THE GUN!

Mr. NELSON, PLEASE... FOCUS ON WHAT I'M SAYING.
BE RIGHT WITH YOU, LADY.
JUST NEED A BREATH OF FRESH AIR.
NYU

FLYING

THE MAN WITHOUT FEAR Stan Lee PRESENTS:

SCOTT LOBDELL
WRITER

TOM MORGAN
PENCILER

CHEEZE AND CRACKERS?!

NYU

SIGH

WE DON'T HAVE *TIME* FOR THIS.

YANK

WHICH "THIS" IS *THAT?*

THE *"THIS"* THAT FINDS ME USING *S.H.I.E.L.D.'S* MOST EXPENSIVE *TOY* -- THE *HELICARRIER* -- TO TRANSPORT MYSELF AND MY ENTIRE *EXTRACTION UNIT* ACROSS THE *ATLANTIC OCEAN*...

... IN AN EFFORT TO PREVENT AN *INTERNATIONAL INCIDENT* THE LIKES OF WHICH THE WORLD HAS *NEVER* ENDURED!

AND BECAUSE I'M A *SECRET AGENT* AND NOT A *BABY SITTER* --

-- I'D APPRECIATE IT IF YOU'D *CONCENTRATE* ON THE MATTER AT HAND INSTEAD OF TRYING TO GET YOURSELF *KILLED* WHILE WE MIGHT *STILL* HAVE SOME *ACTUAL USE* FOR YOU, *Mr. NELSON!*

Oh. *THAT "THIS."*

SCOTT HANNA
INKER

CHRISTIE SCHEELE
COLORS

RS & COMICRAFT'S LIZ AGRAPHIOTIS
LETTERS

TIM TUOHY
EDITOR

BOB HARRAS
CHIEF

BLIND

3 OF 4

STRATEGIC HAZARD INTERVENTION ESPIONAGE LOGISTICS DIRECTORATE – Tim

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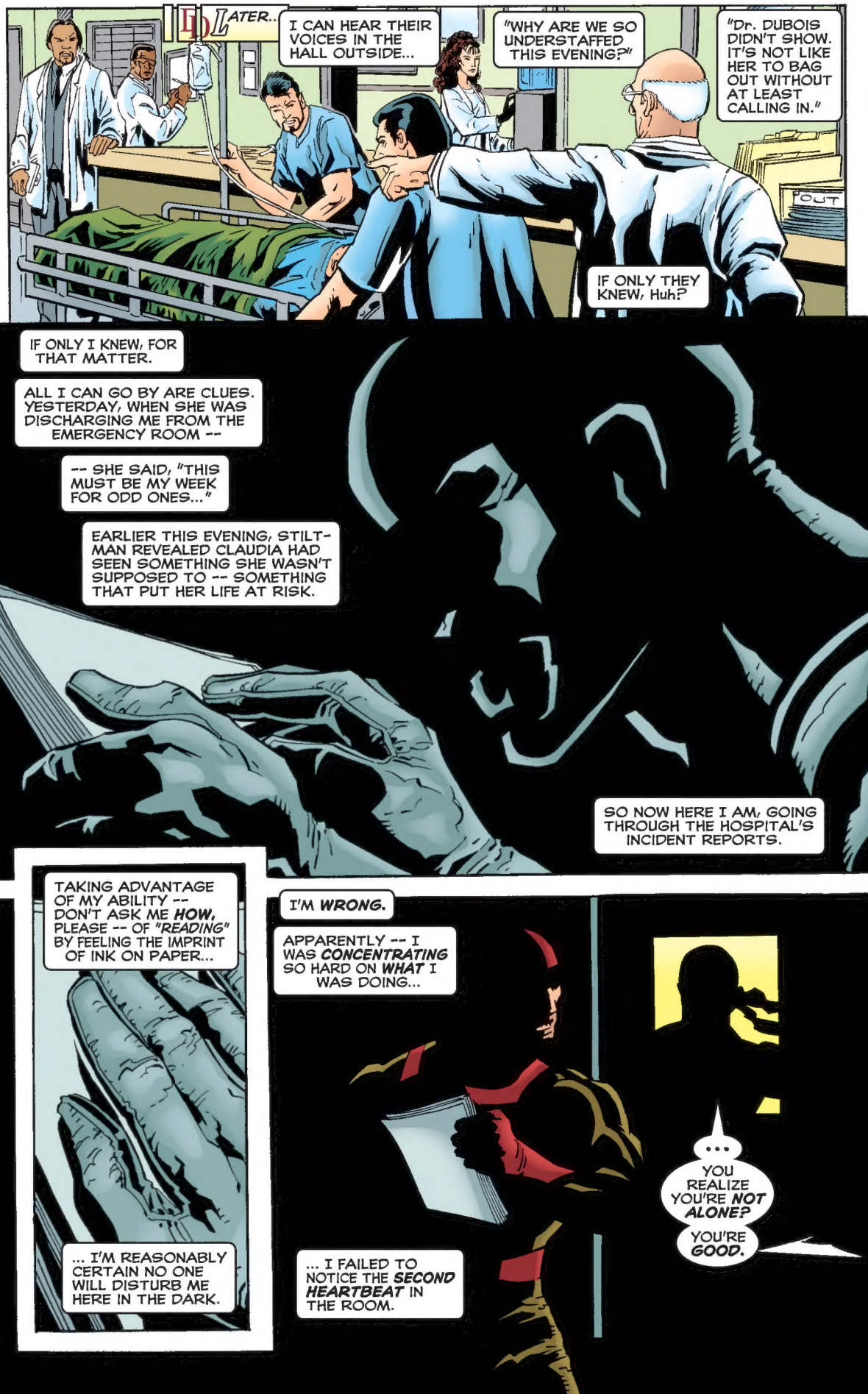
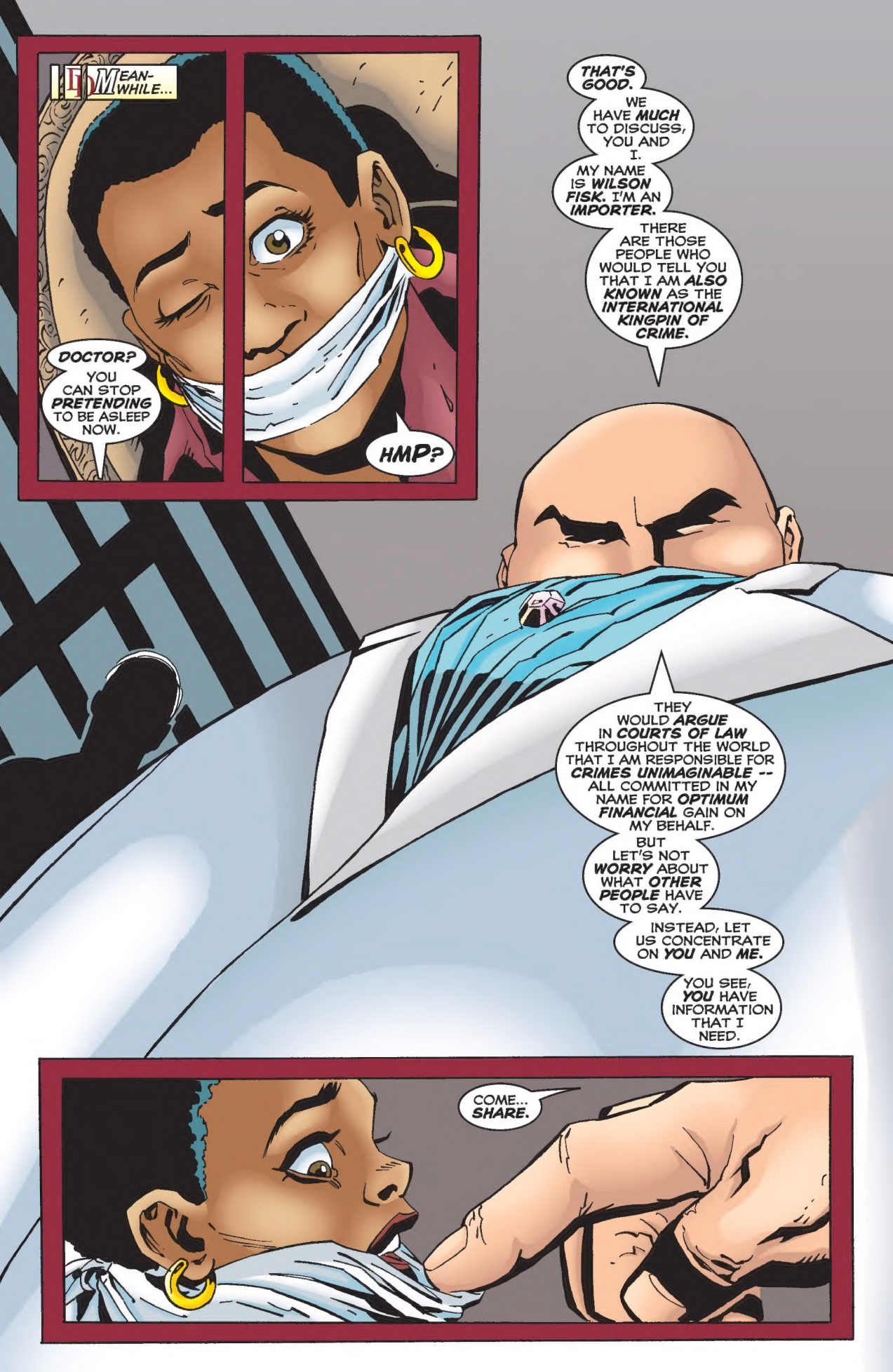
NOW YOU LISTEN TO ME, AGENT SENYAKA! FOGGY NELSON DOESN'T NEED TO BE BABYSAT!
LONG BEFORE I WAS BEING KIDNAPPED OUT OF MY OWN BED AND SPIRITED AWAY IN THE DEAD OF NIGHT --
-- I WAS NEW YORK'S DISTRICT ATTORNEY!
I REALIZE THAT, SIR. AND AS AN OFFICER OF THE COURT, I'M ASKING FOR YOUR HELP DURING THIS TIME OF CRISIS.
WHAT DOES WHATEVER IT IS YOU'RE DOING HAVE TO DO WITH ME?
PROBABLY VERY LITTLE. BUT MY FIELD AGENT IN HELL'S KITCHEN INFORMED ME YOU WERE SEARCHING FOR THE PERSON WHO STANDS AT THE VERY HEART OF OUR OPERATION.
See LAST ISSUE
A PERSON WE ARE DESPERATELY TRYING TO LOCATE!
THE COSTUMED ADVENTURER KNOWN AS DAREDEVIL?
OF COURSE HE'S ALSO MY BEST FRIEND AND LAW PARTNER MATTHEW MURDOCK --
-- BUT I KNOW HOW MATT IS ABOUT HIS SECRET IDENTITY, SO THERE'S NO REASON TO BRING IT UP TO HER.
HOW IS HE INVOLVED IN THIS?
BECAUSE HE MAY BE THE ONLY LIVING BEING BETWEEN US... AND THE END OF CIVILIZATION AS WE KNOW IT.
AND WE HAVE REASON TO SUSPECT...

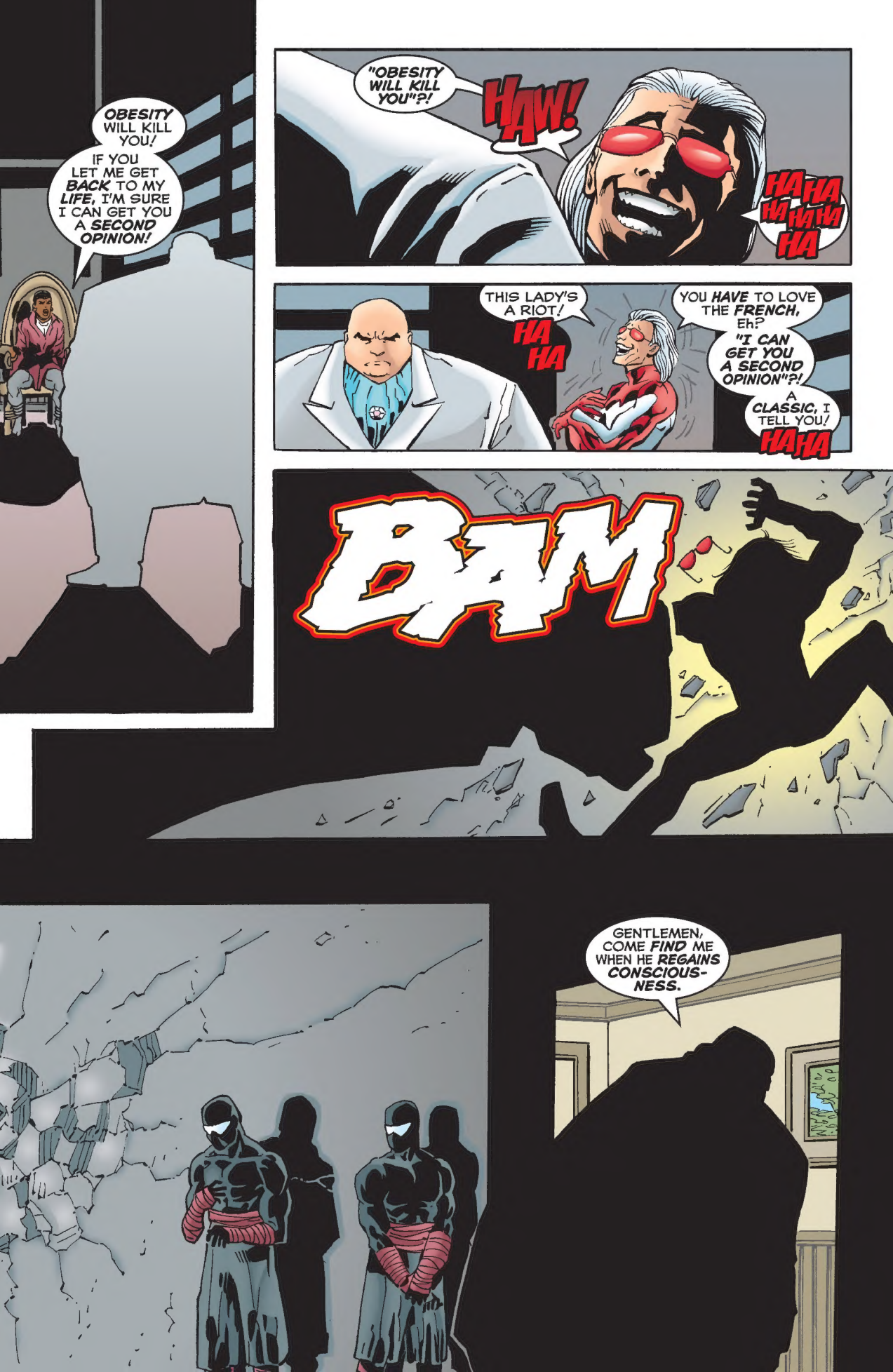
"... THAT HE'S IN BIG TROUBLE!"
I'VE HAD BETTER NIGHTS THAN THIS.
I'M ASSUMING ANYWAY.
THAT'S THE PROBLEM WITH BEING AMNESIAC: ASSUMING BECOMES A WAY OF LIFE.
STEP AWAY FROM THE BODY, MONSIEUR.
THE ONLY THING I DO REMEMBER IS BATTLING THE STILT-MAN HERE --
-- WHO WAS TRYING TO WARN ME ABOUT SOMETHING BEFORE HE...
... PASSED OUT.
BUT I DIDN'T DO ANYTHING, OFFICER.
See LAST ISSUE -Tim
TELL THAT TO THE CORPSE AT YOUR FEET!
HE'S NOT ACTUALLY DEAD.
YES, AN ELECTRO-MAGNETIC BIO-PULSE HAS DRASTICALLY REDUCED HIS BRAIN CAPACITY AND BODILY FUNCTIONS AT LEAST TEMPORARILY --
-- HOW DO I EXPLAIN I "SENSED" ALL THIS, WITHOUT APPEARING TO BE A COMPLETE LUNATIC?
FOR THAT MATTER, MAYBE I AM A COMPLETE LUNATIC.

BUT NO, CLAUDIA IS COUNTING ON ME.
THROW DOWN YOUR WEAPON -- NOW.
MY... WEAPON?
YES SIR, OFFICER.
RIGHT AWAY, SIR.
HAVE TO AIM THIS PERFECTLY...
KLANG
THERE!
JUST AS I PLANNED, I TRIGGERED THIS MAN'S HYDRAULIC STILTS!
FWOOM
FWOOM
THE RESULTING CONFUSION SHOULD ALLOW ME TO ESCAPE --
-- WHILE KEEPING THE LOCAL GENDARMES FROM GIVING CHASE.
ADIEU, MES AMIS!
WHICH MEANS NOW I CAN ACT ON THE INFORMATION STILT-MAN GAVE ME --
-- I CAN TRACK DOWN Dr. CLAUDIA DUBOIS --
-- WITHOUT ANY UNDUE INTERFERENCE!
I HOPE.


LATER..
I CAN HEAR THEIR VOICES IN THE HALL OUTSIDE...
"WHY ARE WE SO UNDERSTAFFED THIS EVENING?"
"Dr. DUBOIS DIDN'T SHOW. IT'S NOT LIKE HER TO BAG OUT WITHOUT AT LEAST CALLING IN."
IF ONLY THEY KNEW, Huh?
IF ONLY I KNEW, FOR THAT MATTER.
ALL I CAN GO BY ARE CLUES. YESTERDAY, WHEN SHE WAS DISCHARGING ME FROM THE EMERGENCY ROOM --
-- SHE SAID, "THIS MUST BE MY WEEK FOR ODD ONES..."
EARLIER THIS EVENING, STILT-MAN REVEALED CLAUDIA HAD SEEN SOMETHING SHE WASN'T SUPPOSED TO -- SOMETHING THAT PUT HER LIFE AT RISK.
SO NOW HERE I AM, GOING THROUGH THE HOSPITAL'S INCIDENT REPORTS.
TAKING ADVANTAGE OF MY ABILITY -- DON'T ASK ME HOW, PLEASE -- OF "READING" BY FEELING THE IMPRINT OF INK ON PAPER...
... I'M REASONABLY CERTAIN NO ONE WILL DISTURB ME HERE IN THE DARK.
I'M WRONG.
APPARENTLY -- I WAS CONCENTRATING SO HARD ON WHAT I WAS DOING...
... I FAILED TO NOTICE THE SECOND HEARTBEAT IN THE ROOM.
...
YOU REALIZE YOU'RE NOT ALONE?
YOU'RE GOOD.

YOU DON'T KNOW THE HALF OF IT, MON AMI.
OF COURSE, NEITHER DO I, BUT THERE'S NO REASON HE NEEDS TO KNOW THAT.
STILT-MAN IS AN IDIOT, MON AMI.
WORSE YET, HE WAS AN AMERICAN.
NONE OF WHICH IS YOUR CONCERN ANY MORE...
... FOR ALL YOU NEED TO DO -- IS DIE!
NOW, IT DOESN'T TAKE A GENIUS TO REALIZE YOU MUST HAVE HAD SOMETHING TO DO WITH Dr. DUBOIS'S KIDNAPPING.
OR IS IT JUST A COINCIDENCE THAT YOU AND STILT-MAN SHOP AT THE SAME "VILLAINS R US" RETAIL OUTLET?
HIS INTENT WAS TO BLIND ME WITH THE SUDDEN LIGHT.
THEN PRESS HIS ADVANTAGE WHILE I TRY TO ADJUST.
BUT HE COULDN'T HAVE KNOWN ABOUT MY... WHAT DID I CALL IT... "RADAR SENSE"?
I INSTANTLY FILTER OUT MY EYESIGHT -- DIALING IT ALL THE WAY DOWN LIKE A LIGHT DIMMER.
WOULD IT BE TOO MUCH TO ASK YOUR NAME -- WHILE YOU'RE STILL CONSCIOUS ENOUGH TO GIVE IT TO ME?
I AM CALLED LE CONCIERGE -- THE MOST DEADLY ASSASSIN IN ALL OF PARIS!
YOU WON'T MIND IF I TAKE YOUR WORD FOR IT?


MEAN-WHILE...
DOCTOR? YOU CAN STOP PRETENDING TO BE ASLEEP NOW.
HMP?
THAT'S GOOD.
WE HAVE MUCH TO DISCUSS, YOU AND I.
MY NAME IS WILSON FISK. I'M AN IMPORTER.
THERE ARE THOSE PEOPLE WHO WOULD TELL YOU THAT I AM ALSO KNOWN AS THE INTERNATIONAL KINGPIN OF CRIME.
THEY WOULD ARGUE IN COURTS OF LAW THROUGHOUT THE WORLD THAT I AM RESPONSIBLE FOR CRIMES UNIMAGINABLE -- ALL COMMITTED IN MY NAME FOR OPTIMUM FINANCIAL GAIN ON MY BEHALF.
BUT LET'S NOT WORRY ABOUT WHAT OTHER PEOPLE HAVE TO SAY.
INSTEAD, LET US CONCENTRATE ON YOU AND ME.
YOU SEE, YOU HAVE INFORMATION THAT I NEED.
COME... SHARE.

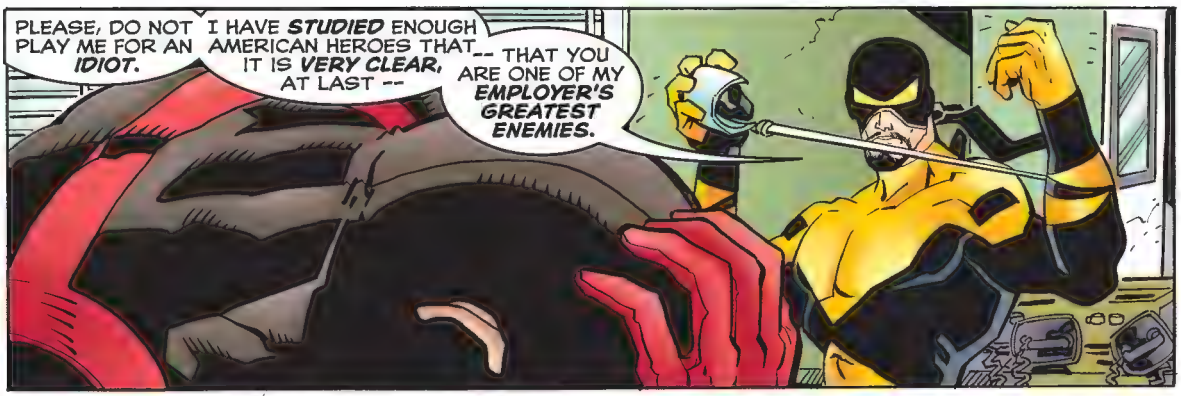

OBESITY WILL KILL YOU!
IF YOU LET ME GET BACK TO MY LIFE, I'M SURE I CAN GET YOU A SECOND OPINION!
"OBESITY WILL KILL YOU"?!
HAW!
HAHA HAHAHA HA
THIS LADY'S A RIOT!
HA HA
YOU HAVE TO LOVE THE FRENCH, Eh?
"I CAN GET YOU A SECOND OPINION"?!
A CLASSIC, I TELL YOU!
HAHA
BAM
GENTLEMEN, COME FIND ME WHEN HE REGAINS CONSCIOUS-NESS.

YOU'D WAKE UP WITH A LOT LESS BRUISES IF YOU'D JUST TELL ME WHERE TO FIND HER!
TRYING? OUCH.
RATHER THAN SPEND YOUR ENERGY TRYING TO BE FUNNY --
-- WHY DON'T YOU CONSIDER ALL YOUR OPTIONS: SUCH AS JOINING US!
"US"?
Uh-Oh.
MY RADAR SENSE IS PICKING UP TWO BODIES --
-- SECURITY GUARDS --
-- ABOUT TO INVESTIGATE THE NOISE FROM OUR BATTLE.
WE ARE KNOWN AS THE EMISSARIES OF EVIL.
WOW. THAT'S SUBTLE.
WE FEEL IT GETS THE POINT ACROSS.
NOW, WITH STILT-MAN OUT OF THE PICTURE, WE ARE DOWN A MEMBER...
...SO YOU'RE OFFERING ME HIS SPOT IN YOUR GROUP?
I'M FLATTERED.
REALLY.
BUT I'M AFRAID I'M GOING TO HAVE TO SAY "NO" --
-- YOU KNOW, WHAT WITH HAVING TO LIVE WITH MYSELF AND ALL.
THEN YOU WILL NOT BE LIVING AT ALL!

HAVE TO TIME THIS PERFECTLY.
HOLD IT DOWN IN HERE, YOU TWO!
YOU ARE MAKING ENOUGH NOISE TO WAKE THE PATIENTS DOWN IN THE MORGUE!
WHAM
'COURSE, IN RETROSPECT -- WE PROBABLY SHOULD HAVE USED OUR PASS-KEY. BUT STILL --
THE SOONER I END THIS...
...THE LESS LIKELY ANY-ONE IS TO GET HURT.
UHRN!
RMMPH!
YOU -- YOU PLANNED THIS, DIDN'T YOU?!
"PLANNED" IS TOO STRONG.
WAK
=EMRP!=
BUT WHY QUIBBLE OVER SEMANTICS?

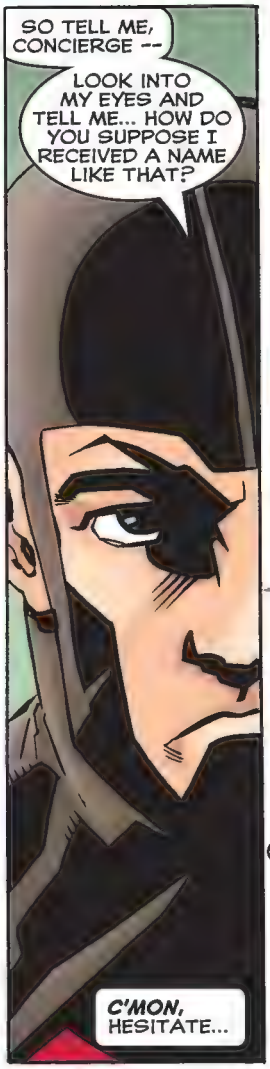
FIRST THINGS FIRST...
...WHICH IS TO CHECK ON THE GUARDS.
THEY'LL BE FINE --
-- BUT ME? THAT'S ANOTHER QUESTION!
I SEE NOW THAT I WAS WRONG ABOUT YOU!
YOU SHOW TOO MUCH COMPASSION FOR THE WELFARE OF STRANGERS --
-- TO EVER FAITHFULLY ATTEND TO MATTERS THAT REQUIRE UN-ADULTERATED EVIL!
AND THAT'S A NEGATIVE?!
YOU FRENCH CERTAINLY DO HAVE THAT ATTITUDE THING GOING ON!
"YOU FRENCH"?!
THAT'S ODD -- ISN'T IT? I'M FRENCH -- AREN'T I?
Urnh!
HAVE TO PAY ATTENTION --
-- OR IT ISN'T GOING TO MATTER WHAT NATIONALITY I AM, I'LL WIND UP DEAD!

I THOUGHT ROLLING WITH THAT KICK WOULD BUY ME SOME BREATHING ROOM!
UNFORTUNATELY, I HADN'T COUNTED ON THE CHAOS THAT WOULD RESULT FROM THE PANICKING CROWDS.
ALL THE SHOUTING AND SCREAMING IS A BIT OVERWHELMING ON MY HEIGHTENED SENSES.
OKAY...A LOT OVERWHELMING!
WHEN I WAS FIRST APPROACHED ABOUT THIS EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY --
KK
-- I WAS SKEPTICAL!
TAKING OVER THE WORLD FROM EUROPE? THIS IS SIMPLY NOT DONE!
BUT THEN IT WAS EXPLAINED TO ME THAT THIS CONTINENT HAS THE LOWEST SUPER HERO PER CAPITA RATIO.
A STATISTIC YOU SEEM DETERMINED TO CHANGE!
YOU ARE THE THIRD PERSON TO REFER TO ME AS A SUPER HERO!
KNRCNCH
WHY -URMP- IS THAT?!


PLEASE, DO NOT PLAY ME FOR AN IDIOT.
I HAVE STUDIED ENOUGH AMERICAN HEROES THAT IT IS VERY CLEAR, AT LAST --
-- THAT YOU ARE ONE OF MY EMPLOYER'S GREATEST ENEMIES.

AS CLEAR AS IT IS THAT YOU ARE GOING TO DIE ON THE END OF MY BLADE!
SO HUMOR ME BEFORE I GO.
WHO AM I?

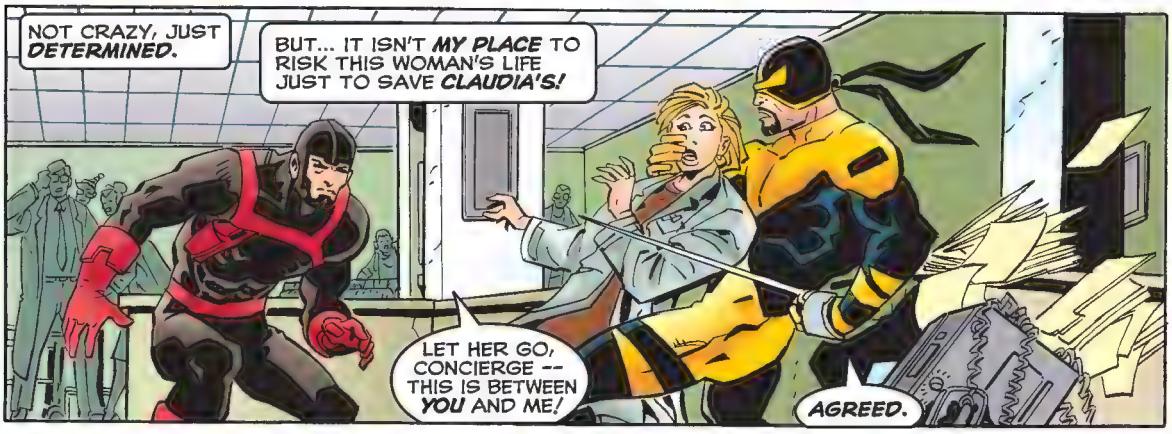
I DO NOT KNOW THE LITERAL TRANSLATION OF YOUR CODE NAME --
-- BUT I DO KNOW THAT YOU HAVE OFTEN BEEN REFERRED TO AS "THE MAN WITHOUT FEAR."
THAT'S A LONG NAME.


SO TELL ME, CONCIERGE --
LOOK INTO MY EYES AND TELL ME... HOW DO YOU SUPPOSE I RECEIVED A NAME LIKE THAT?
C'MON, HESITATE...

...JUST A SECOND MORE...

PERFECT!
FWING
STUMPED?

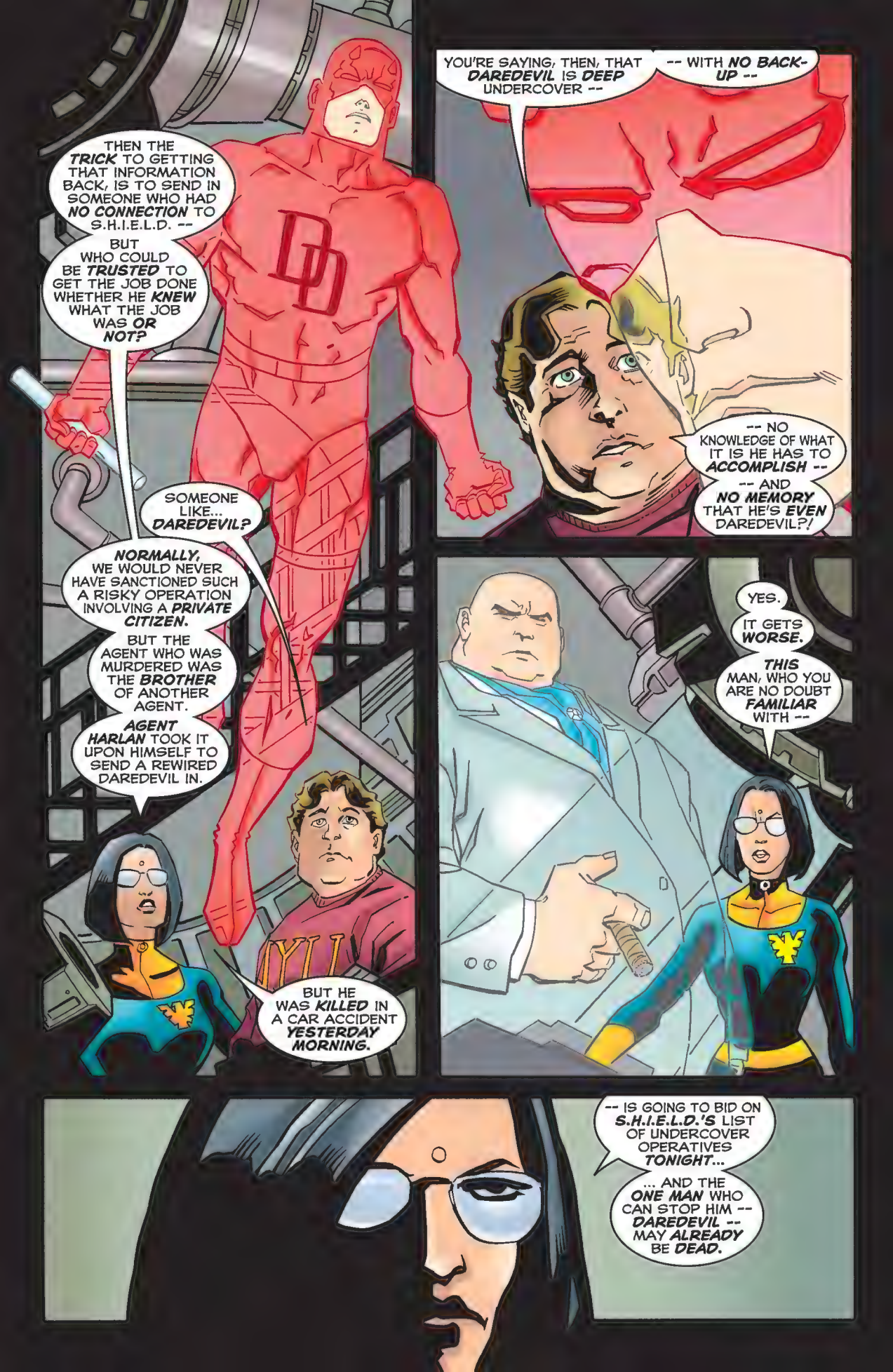
FOR A MOMENT, OUI!
SPLTNG
NO!
I SENSE ANOTHER BLADE BENEATH HIS COSTUME!
PLEASE, LET ME GO!
YOU PEOPLE ARE CRAZY!

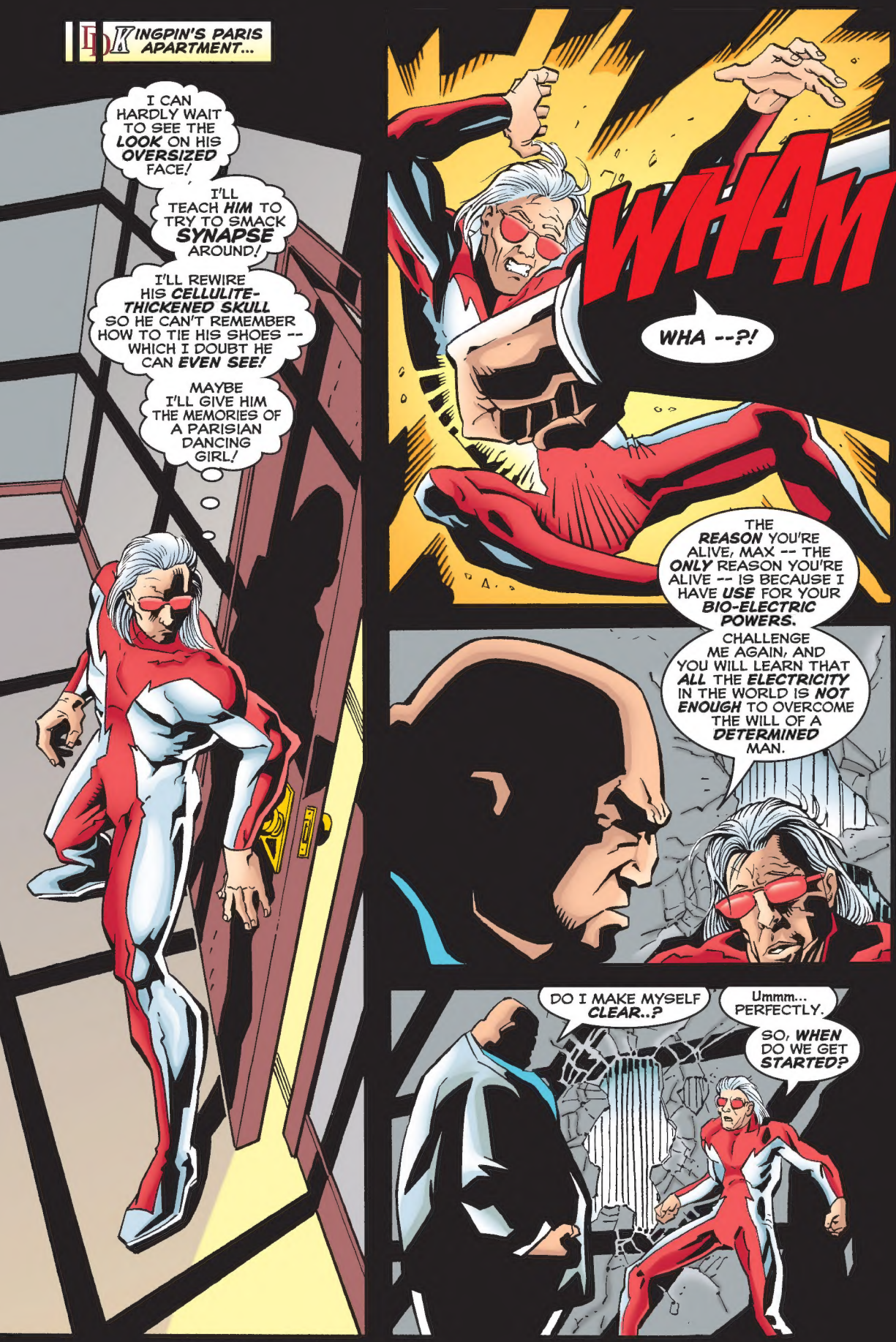

NOT CRAZY, JUST DETERMINED.
BUT... IT ISN'T MY PLACE TO RISK THIS WOMAN'S LIFE JUST TO SAVE CLAUDIA'S!
LET HER GO, CONCIERGE -- THIS IS BETWEEN YOU AND ME!
AGREED.

COME OVER HERE AND THROW YOURSELF ON THE END OF MY BLADE --
-- AND I'D BE ONLY TOO HAPPY TO LET HER GO!
HOW?

HOW DID I MANAGE TO GET MYSELF INTO THIS SITUATION?

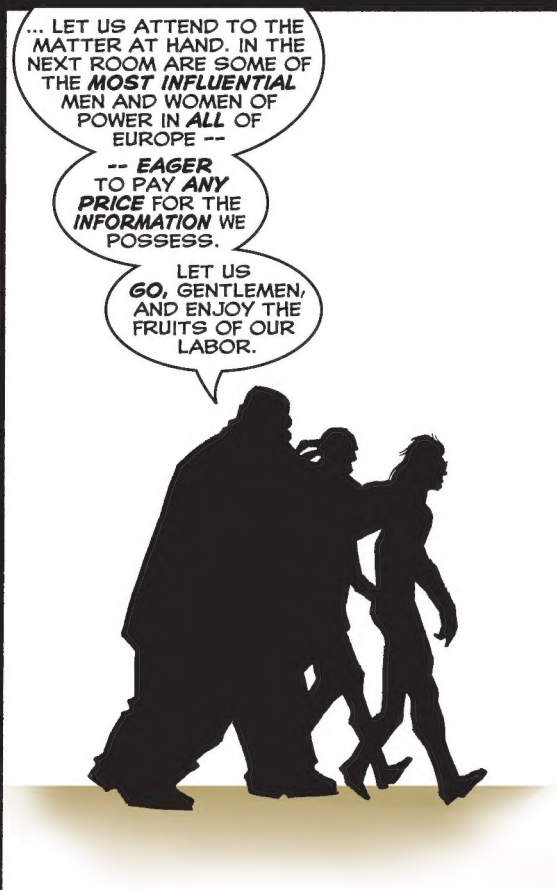
S.H.I.E.L.D....
IMPRESSIVE HOLOGRAM.
SHHH.
EARLIER THIS WEEK, A S.H.I.E.L.D. AGENT TURNED UP DEAD IN PARIS.
MURDERED.
NYU
NOT THAT THIS DOESN'T HAPPEN OCCASIONALLY, BUT THIS PARTICULAR AGENT WAS WHAT WAS KNOWN AS A "VOLUME AGENT."
THAT IS, HE HAD A COMPLETE KNOWLEDGE OF ALL THE S.H.I.E.L.D. AGENTS WORKING UNDERCOVER THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.
SURPRISINGLY, THE AUTOPSY REVEALED HIS MIND HAD BEEN... REWIRED.
REWIRED? MEANING HE HAD A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT SET OF MEMORIES -- A DIFFERENT WAY OF THINKING?
THAT IS DISTURBING.
NOT FOR THE REASON YOU'D IMAGINE...YOU SEE, ERR (ELECTRO-ENCEPHALOGRAPHIC REWIRING) IS SOMETHING S.H.I.E.L.D. HAS BEEN DOING FOR THE BETTER PART OF THE LAST DECADE.
IN A WORLD WITH SO MANY ANTAGONISTIC PSIONS, IT IS AN ABSOLUTE NECESSITY FOR UNDERCOVER WORK.
UNDERCOVER...?
BUT IF WHOEVER STOLE THAT INFORMATION NOW KNOWS ALL YOUR UNDERCOVER S.H.I.E.L.D. AGENTS...?

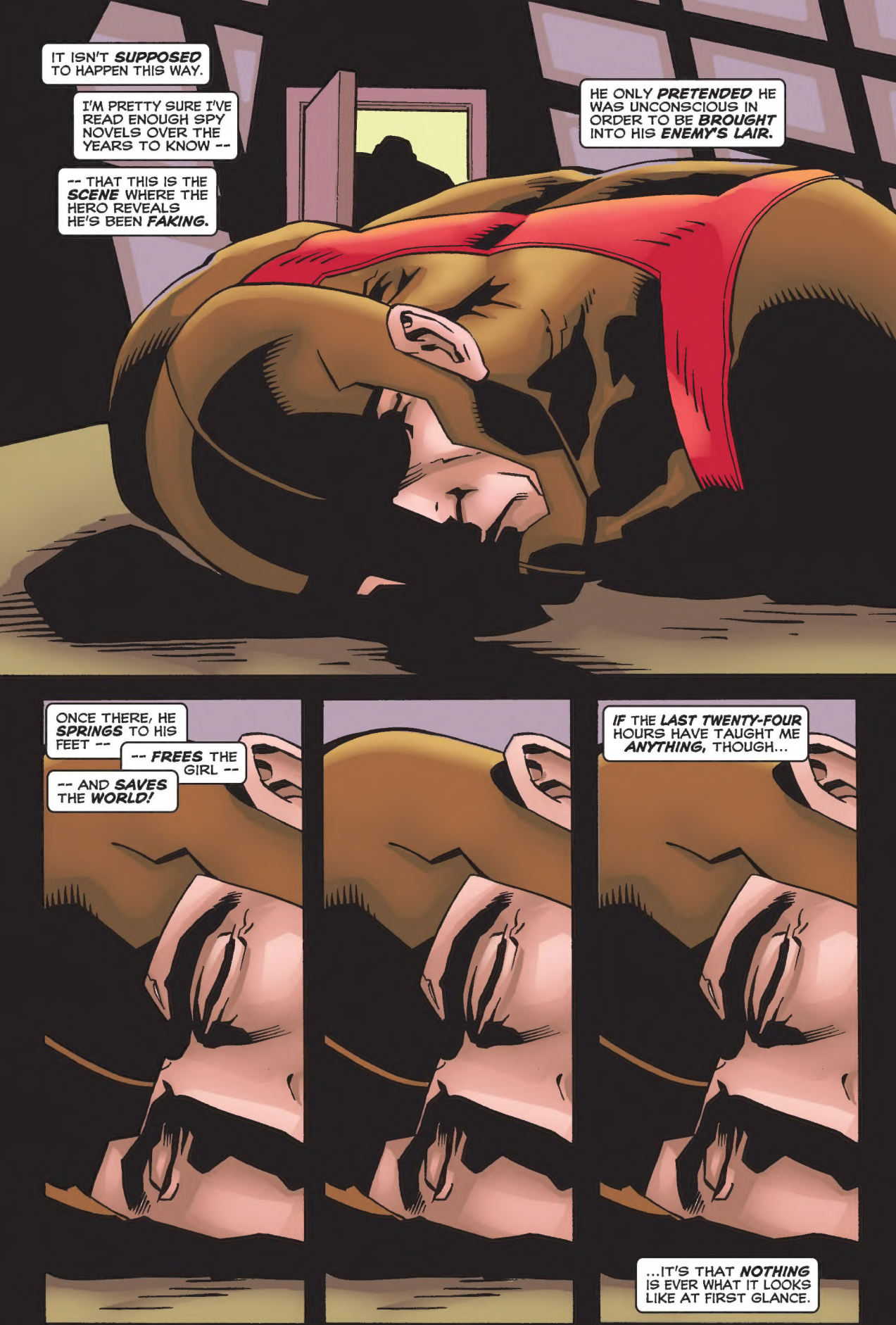

THEN THE TRICK TO GETTING THAT INFORMATION BACK, IS TO SEND IN SOMEONE WHO HAD NO CONNECTION TO S.H.I.E.L.D. --
BUT WHO COULD BE TRUSTED TO GET THE JOB DONE WHETHER HE KNEW WHAT THE JOB WAS OR NOT?
SOMEONE LIKE... DAREDEVIL?
NORMALLY, WE WOULD NEVER HAVE SANCTIONED SUCH A RISKY OPERATION INVOLVING A PRIVATE CITIZEN.
BUT THE AGENT WHO WAS MURDERED WAS THE BROTHER OF ANOTHER AGENT.
AGENT HARLAN TOOK IT UPON HIMSELF TO SEND A REWIRED DAREDEVIL IN.
BUT HE WAS KILLED IN A CAR ACCIDENT YESTERDAY MORNING.
YOU'RE SAYING, THEN, THAT DAREDEVIL IS DEEP UNDERCOVER --
-- WITH NO BACK-UP --
-- NO KNOWLEDGE OF WHAT IT IS HE HAS TO ACCOMPLISH --
-- AND NO MEMORY THAT HE'S EVEN DAREDEVIL?!
YES.
IT GETS WORSE.
THIS MAN, WHO YOU ARE NO DOUBT FAMILIAR WITH --
-- IS GOING TO BID ON S.H.I.E.L.D.'S LIST OF UNDERCOVER OPERATIVES TONIGHT...
... AND THE ONE MAN WHO CAN STOP HIM -- DAREDEVIL -- MAY ALREADY BE DEAD.

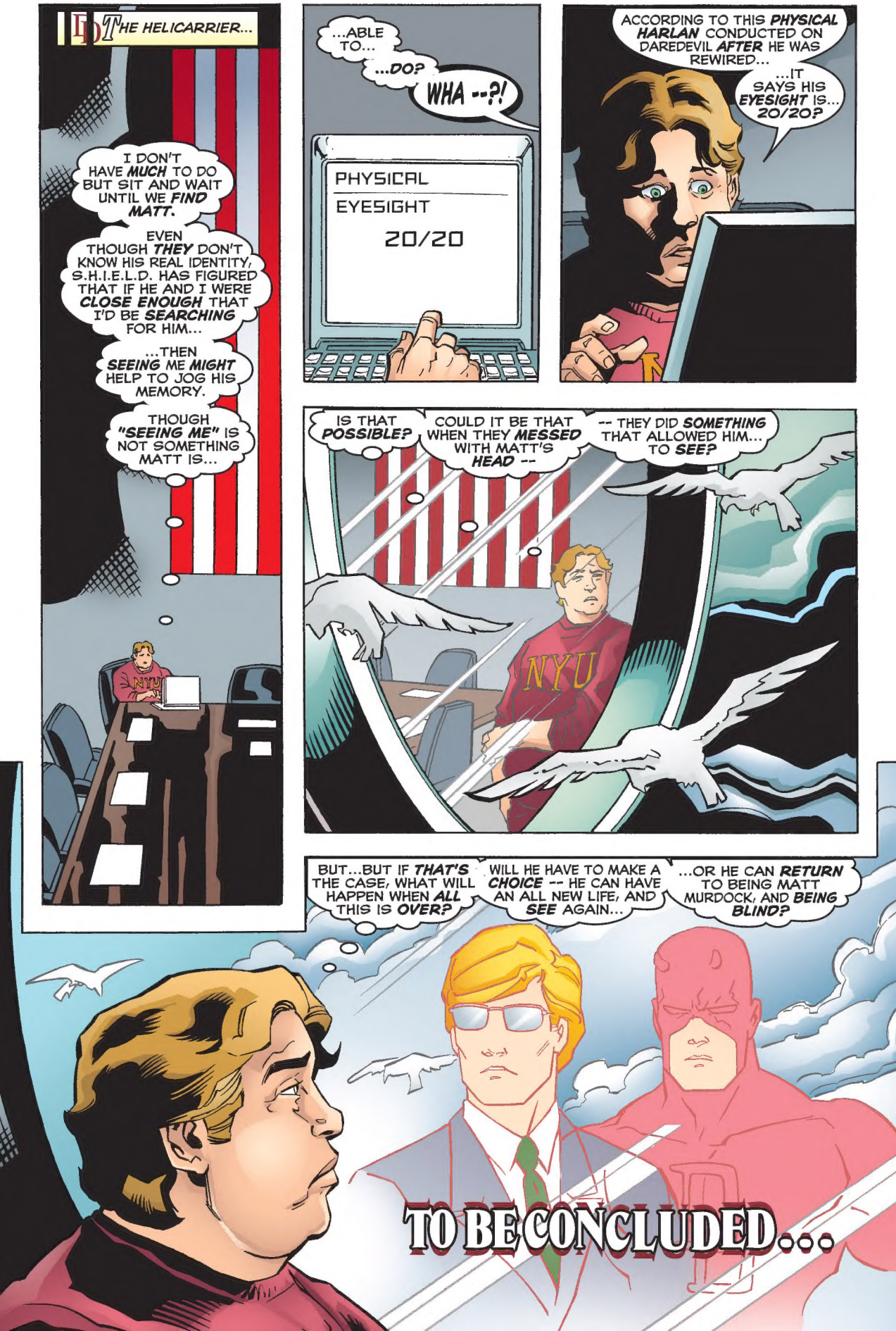

KINGPIN'S PARIS APARTMENT...
I CAN HARDLY WAIT TO SEE THE LOOK ON HIS OVERSIZED FACE!
I'LL TEACH HIM TO TRY TO SMACK SYNAPSE AROUND!
I'LL REWIRE HIS CELLULITE-THICKENED SKULL SO HE CAN'T REMEMBER HOW TO TIE HIS SHOES -- WHICH I DOUBT HE CAN EVEN SEE!
MAYBE I'LL GIVE HIM THE MEMORIES OF A PARISIAN DANCING GIRL!
WHAM
WHA --?!
THE REASON YOU'RE ALIVE, MAX -- THE ONLY REASON YOU'RE ALIVE -- IS BECAUSE I HAVE USE FOR YOUR BIO-ELECTRIC POWERS.
CHALLENGE ME AGAIN, AND YOU WILL LEARN THAT ALL THE ELECTRICITY IN THE WORLD IS NOT ENOUGH TO OVERCOME THE WILL OF A DETERMINED MAN.
DO I MAKE MYSELF CLEAR..?
Ummm... PERFECTLY.
SO, WHEN DO WE GET STARTED?

MES AMIS, LIGHTEN UP -- OUI? EVERYTHING IS GRAND NOW: I HAVE CAPTURED THE IDIOT WHO HAD SOUGHT TO INTERFERE WITH YOUR PLANS, MONSIEUR.
I AM ASSUMING YOU HAVE DISPOSED OF THE DOCTOR, THE WOMAN WHO LEARNED MORE THAN SHE SHOULD HAVE?
UNFORTUNATELY, CONCIERGE, THAT HAS NOT HAPPENED. YET.
KLUNK
PHEW
THAT'S THE BEST NEWS I'VE HEARD ALL EVENING.

LET US NOT FIGHT AMONG OURSELVES.
I DON'T FIGHT.
I ELABORATE.
I HEAR YOU, BOSS.
NOW...


... LET US ATTEND TO THE MATTER AT HAND. IN THE NEXT ROOM ARE SOME OF THE MOST INFLUENTIAL MEN AND WOMEN OF POWER IN ALL OF EUROPE --
-- EAGER TO PAY ANY PRICE FOR THE INFORMATION WE POSSESS.
LET US GO, GENTLEMEN, AND ENJOY THE FRUITS OF OUR LABOR.


IT ISN'T SUPPOSED TO HAPPEN THIS WAY.
I'M PRETTY SURE I'VE READ ENOUGH SPY NOVELS OVER THE YEARS TO KNOW --
-- THAT THIS IS THE SCENE WHERE THE HERO REVEALS HE'S BEEN FAKING.
HE ONLY PRETENDED HE WAS UNCONSCIOUS IN ORDER TO BE BROUGHT INTO HIS ENEMY'S LAIR.
ONCE THERE, HE SPRINGS TO HIS FEET --
-- FREES THE GIRL --
-- AND SAVES THE WORLD!
IF THE LAST TWENTY-FOUR HOURS HAVE TAUGHT ME ANYTHING, THOUGH...
...IT'S THAT NOTHING IS EVER WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE AT FIRST GLANCE.


THE HELICARRIER...
I DON'T HAVE MUCH TO DO BUT SIT AND WAIT UNTIL WE FIND MATT.
EVEN THOUGH THEY DON'T KNOW HIS REAL IDENTITY, S.H.I.E.L.D. HAS FIGURED THAT IF HE AND I WERE CLOSE ENOUGH THAT I'D BE SEARCHING FOR HIM...
...THEN SEEING ME MIGHT HELP TO JOG HIS MEMORY.
THOUGH "SEEING ME" IS NOT SOMETHING MATT IS...
NYU
...ABLE TO...
...DO?
WHA --?!
PHYSICAL
EYESIGHT
20/20
ACCORDING TO THIS PHYSICAL HARLAN CONDUCTED ON DAREDEVIL AFTER HE WAS REWIRED...
...IT SAYS HIS EYESIGHT IS... 20/20?
IS THAT POSSIBLE?
COULD IT BE THAT WHEN THEY MESSED WITH MATT'S HEAD --
-- THEY DID SOMETHING THAT ALLOWED HIM... TO SEE?
NYU
BUT...BUT IF THAT'S THE CASE, WHAT WILL HAPPEN WHEN ALL THIS IS OVER?
WILL HE HAVE TO MAKE A CHOICE -- HE CAN HAVE AN ALL NEW LIFE, AND SEE AGAIN...
...OR HE CAN RETURN TO BEING MATT MURDOCK, AND BEING BLIND?
TO BE CONCLUDED...